

U.S. Pat App. Serial No.: 10/069,507
ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1712934

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	Examiner:	SOLIS, Erick R.
Fabien MOREAU et al.)	Group Art Unit:	3747
U.S. Pat App. Serial No.: 10/069,507)	Confirmation No.:	3440
(Nat. Stage of PCT/FR00/02413))		
Filing Date: February 26, 2002)		
For: DEVICE FOR REGULATING FLOW IN A)		
DUCT PORTION OR AN INTAKE PASSAGE)		
AND MANIFOLD COMPRISING SAME)		

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:

This is responsive to the final Office Action mailed March 31, 2004 (hereinafter, "Final Action"). This Amendment and Response is filed with a Request for Continued Examination and a request for a three-month extension of time to respond to the Final Action. Requisite fees are authorized to be charged to our firm's deposit account in the enclosed RCE form.

In the Final Action, the Examiner made final a rejection of Claims 18-34, 42-48, 50, 52, 53, and 55-60 under Section 102(b) as anticipated by Fujita, U.S. Patent No. 5,875,758 (hereinafter, "Fujita"); and a rejection of Claims 35-41, 49, 51, 54, 61, and 62 as unpatentable under Section 103(a) as obvious over Fujita in view of Mehne, U.S. Patent No. 5,992,369.

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In response, Applicants respectfully submit the following Amendments and Arguments/Remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 13 of this paper.

Arguments/Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper.

An **Appendix** is enclosed at the end of this paper, including one replacement drawing sheet containing an amended drawing figure, and one dictionary excerpt.